

Did you know...



It is never too early to introduce babies to print. Board books have pages that are heavy, sturdy, and laminated. They are perfect for little hands. Babies and toddlers explore their world by putting things into their mouths, including books. This is normal, which is why board books are a great choice for young children.

Books don't have to be read from front to back. You can take a "book walk" by turning the pages and pointing to pictures. Name the pictures as you look at them, to help build your child's vocabulary. If your child wants to look at the same pictures over and over, give them time to do so. Children need repetition for information to be stored in their long-term memories.

Take time to look at and read books with your little one. It will create a strong tradition of reading in their lives.

Here's how...



- ❖ Point out street signs as you walk or drive around town with your child. Talk about the color, shape, and words on signs so your child will be aware they have meaning.
- ❖ Point out letters, numbers, and shapes on your child's clothing. Say "Oh look, there is a circle on your shirt" and trace it with your finger.
- ❖ Let your child have opportunities to play with writing and drawing. They can write in pudding, shaving cream, sand, or dry Jell-O on a cookie sheet or any flat surface. Shaving cream should be used only with older toddlers.

Read



Blankie/Mantita, by Leslie Patricelli



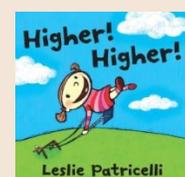
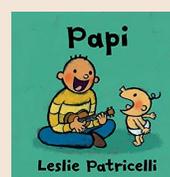
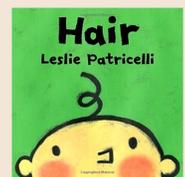
Anyone who has spent time with a toddler knows how important a favorite blanket is. From playtime, to mealtime, to bedtime, a blankie or other special object comforts many children through the dramas of each day.

Award-winning author Leslie Patricelli lives in Hailey, Idaho. Visit her website to see all the great books for kids she has written, as well as music, games, and other fun activities: <http://lesliepatricelli.com/>

Choosing Books



More board books by Leslie Patricelli to look for at your public library:





Don't throw away those empty tissue boxes—turn them into mystery boxes!

Babies: Put scarves, ribbons, crumpled tissue paper, bubble wrap, fabric scraps, etc. inside the tissue box and let baby pull them out and explore. Be sure that none of the items can fit all the way inside baby's mouth. Talk to baby about colors, textures, sizes, and shapes using lots of describing words (soft, fuzzy, bumpy, red, inside, outside, under...).

Toddlers: Put objects that have something in common inside the box and let your toddler pull them out to explore. Change objects frequently. Ideas for different boxes: Shapes (all different shapes or all of one shape, such as "rectangles"), colors (all different colors or all of one color, such as "red"), textures, etc.



Rock-a-bye Baby

Rock-a-bye baby, on the tree top;

(rock baby in your arms)

When the wind blows, the cradle will rock,

(sway your arms from side to side)

When the bough breaks, the cradle will fall

(drop your head)

And down will come baby, cradle and all.

Hear this tune at:

www.thelearninggroove.com

(under "Lyrics and Activities" then "song title")



At your library...



Screen time for babies and toddlers is not recommended; however, reading an occasional picture book with your little one on your device is one way to enjoy more great stories together. Ask your library if they have e-books available to download to your computer, phone or tablet.



Sometimes

Sometimes I am tall. *(stand tall)*

Sometimes I am small. *(bend knees)*

Sometimes I am very, very tall. *(stand on tiptoes)*

Sometimes I am very, very small. *(crouch down)*

Sometimes tall, *(stand tall)*

Sometimes small. *(bend knees)*

Sometimes neither tall nor small.

(Stand normally, or sit down)